- 1 (Whereupon, conclusion of in
- 2 camera proceedings.)
- 3 MR. DOSHI: Your Honor, at this time, I'd like
- 4 to move for the admission of the first cross exhibit
- 5 we distributed, which was Data Request -- the
- 6 response to Data Request AG 15.06 which we'd like to
- 7 mark as AG Cross Exhibit 1.
- 8 JUDGE DOLAN: Along with 10.07?
- 9 MR. DOSHI: Oh, yes, I'm sorry. It also
- includes the response to AG Data Request 10.07.
- 11 JUDGE DOLAN: Any objections?
- MS. KLYASHEFF: We do not object to Page 1 the
- 13 response to 15.06.
- 14 We object to 10.07 for the reasons
- 15 stated in the response, although we did answer the
- 16 response notwithstanding those objections as to
- 17 breathe and speculation, we do object to admitting
- 18 them into the record.
- 19 JUDGE DOLAN: All right. Subject to that
- 20 objection, I'm going to admit AG Cross Exhibit 1 into
- 21 the record.
- 22 (Whereupon, AG Cross

- 1 Exhibit No. 1.0 was
- 2 admitted into evidence.)
- 3 MR. DOSHI: Thank you, your Honor. When we're
- 4 able to print the revised version of Salvatore
- 5 Marano's testimony from the 2009 case, could we move
- 6 at that time for admission of that as a cross
- 7 exhibit.
- 8 JUDGE DOLAN: You never asked any questions
- 9 about it.
- 10 MR. DOSHI: I think Mr. Schott answered a
- 11 question about whether Peoples Gas hired Mr. Marano
- 12 for certain purposes.
- 13 MS. KLYASHEFF: We object to the admission of
- 14 the testimony as not relevant to the proceeding nor
- 15 relevant to the cross-examination of Mr. Schott.
- MR. DOSHI: Your Honor, Mr. Schott raised the
- 17 topic of Mr. Marano's testimony in his own testimony
- 18 so we'd like to --
- 19 JUDGE DOLAN: But not the whole document, he
- 20 did not, no. If you want to do it for limited
- 21 purposes of what he testified to, I will allow that
- 22 but I'm not going to take someone's testimony from

- 1 another docket and put it into this record.
- MR. DOSHI: All right. Thank you, your Honor.
- JUDGE DOLAN: Go ahead.
- 4 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 5 BY
- 6 MR. REDDICK:
- 7 Q Good morning, Mr. Schott. My name is
- 8 Conrad Reddick. I'm representing the City of
- 9 Chicago.
- 10 A Good morning, Mr. Reddick.
- 11 Q You are currently part of the senior
- 12 management of Integrys; correct?
- 13 A Yes, I am.
- 14 Q And Integrys is the owner of the North
- 15 Shore and Peoples Gas utilities?
- 16 A That is correct.
- 17 Q In the operations of your subsidiary
- 18 utilities, do those utilities dictate their budgets
- 19 and dividend policies independently of Integrys?
- 20 A I'm sorry, could you repeat the question?
- 21 Q Do the North Shore and Peoples Gas
- 22 utilities dictate their own budget and dividend

- 1 policies independently of Integrys?
- 2 A No.
- 3 Q And under the proposed reorganization,
- 4 Integrys would be wholly owned by WEC; correct?
- 5 MS. KLYASHEFF: Objection as to the scope of
- 6 Mr. Schott's testimony.
- 7 JUDGE DOLAN: For that limited purpose, I'll
- 8 overrule the objection.
- 9 THE WITNESS: And it's a little more
- 10 complicated than that. I would say that Peoples Gas
- 11 and North Shore Gas will be indirect subsidiaries of
- 12 Wisconsin -- what will then be known as WEC Energy
- 13 Corp.
- 14 BY MR. REDDICK:
- 15 Q But Integrys will remain the direct holding
- 16 company of the utilities?
- 17 A There will be an indirect holding co- --
- it's complicated -- there will be -- the Integrys
- 19 Energy Group will merge into a new corporation and
- 20 that new corporation will hold the stock of Peoples
- 21 Gas and North Shore Gas and that new corporation will
- 22 be a subsidiary of WEC Energy Group.

- 1 Q Okay. Does that new entity have a name?
- 2 A Yes. It will most likely be named Integrys
- 3 Energy Group.
- 4 Q Okay. Which will be distinct from today's
- 5 Integrys?
- 6 A It's a separate legal -- different legal
- 7 entity, yes.
- 8 Q Okay. And do you expect that under the
- 9 reorganization, the utilities would still be -- let
- 10 me rephrase that.
- 11 Under the reorganization, the
- 12 utilities would nonetheless be effected in their
- 13 budget and dividend policies by their owners?
- 14 MS. KLYASHEFF: Objection as both to scope of
- 15 Mr. Schott's testimony and speculation.
- 16 MR. REDDICK: Your Honor, Mr. Schott is in a
- 17 unique position here. He is now senior management in
- 18 a holding company and in the future may be senior
- 19 management of a company that is owned by a holding
- 20 company different from his own. I can't think of
- 21 anything more relevant than how the reorganization
- 22 will be taking place and how it will effect the

- 1 management of the companies.
- 2 As for the scope of his testimony, he
- 3 does present himself as the senior management at
- 4 Integrys and as Mr. Doshi observed, there are very
- 5 few witnesses here with those perspectives.
- 6 MS. KLYASHEFF: And as I mentioned in an
- 7 earlier objection, that does not expand the scope of
- 8 Mr. Schott's testimony. The fact, yes, he is senior
- 9 management at Integrys Energy Group, he's testifying
- 10 as to distinct subject matter.
- JUDGE DOLAN: If he can answer, I'll overrule
- 12 the objection.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Could you repeat the question?
- 14 MR. REDDICK: I'm not sure which one I stopped
- on. Could I have the reporter read it back, please.
- 16 (Record read as requested.)
- 17 THE WITNESS: If I have a role
- 18 post-reorganization, I do not know what it is at this
- 19 time, so I cannot speculate as to what the -- as to
- 20 what the question asked.
- 21 BY MR. REDDICK:
- 22 Q My question wasn't specific to Peoples Gas.

- 1 You're -- well, you're senior management in holding
- 2 company. I'm simply asking you how holding companies
- 3 work.
- 4 A Well, that wasn't your question. You asked
- 5 post-reorganization what's going to happen, so you're
- 6 making -- can you rephrase the question as a
- 7 hypothetical?
- 8 Q As a general matter, do holding companies
- 9 effect the budget and dividend policies of their
- 10 subsidiaries?
- 11 A As a general matter -- the experience in
- 12 the organizations I've worked in, that is the case.
- 13 I will not say that's true as a true -- I would not
- 14 going as far as to say that's general practice. It
- depends on the holding company.
- 16 Q That's my point. So a change in holding
- 17 company could change budget and dividend policies of
- 18 subsidiaries?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 MR. REDDICK: Thank you. That's all.
- JUDGE DOLAN: Thank you. Do you want a minute
- 22 to -- any redirect or you want to...

- 1 MS. KLYASHEFF: May we have a few minutes
- 2 please.
- JUDGE DOLAN: We'll go off the record.
- 4 (Break taken.)
- 5 MS. KLYASHEFF: We have no questions.
- 6 JUDGE DOLAN: Thank you, Mr. Schott, you're
- 7 excused.
- 8 MR. EIDUKAS: Your Honor, can we have a general
- 9 break?
- 10 JUDGE DOLAN: Yes.
- 11 (Break taken.)
- MR. EIDUKAS: The Joint Applicants to would
- 13 call on Mr. Allen Leverett to the stand.
- JUDGE DOLAN: All right. Mr. Leverett, please
- 15 raise your right hand.
- 16 (Witness sworn.)
- JUDGE DOLAN: You are going to need to make
- 18 sure you talk into the microphone.
- 19
- 20
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- 1 ALLEN LEVERETT,
- 2 called as a witness herein, having been first duly
- 3 sworn, was examined and testified as follows:
- 4 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 5 BY
- 6 MR. EIDUKAS:
- 7 Q Good morning, Mr. Leverett, could you
- 8 please state your name and spell your last name for
- 9 the record?
- 10 A My name is Allen Leverett. The spelling is
- 11 L-e-v-e-r-e-t-t.
- 12 Q And by whom are you employed?
- 13 A By Wisconsin Energy Corporation.
- 14 O And in what capacity?
- 15 A I'm the president of the corporation.
- 16 Q And could you state for the record your
- 17 business address?
- 18 A 231 West Michigan Street, Milwaukee,
- 19 Wisconsin, 53203.
- 20 Q Thank you.
- 21 And, Mr. Leverett, did you prepare or
- 22 have prepared under your direct supervision or

- 1 control direct testimony on behalf of Wisconsin
- 2 Energy Company in this proceeding which consisted of
- 3 a narrative exhibit, Joint Applicants' Exhibit 1.0
- 4 and three attachments JA Exhibits 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3?
- 5 A I did.
- 6 Q Now, if I were to ask you the questions
- 7 that appear in that direct testimony on behalf of
- 8 Wisconsin Energy, would your answers today be the
- 9 same and would they be true and correct subject to
- 10 any revisions or corrections you made in your
- 11 rebuttal or surrebuttal testimonies?
- 12 A Yes, they would.
- 13 MR. EIDUKAS: And that -- for the record, that
- 14 testimony was filed on e-Docket on August 6th of
- 15 2014.
- 16 BY MR. EIDUKAS:
- 17 Q And turning your rebuttal testimony, did
- 18 you prepare or have prepared under your direct
- 19 supervision or control rebuttal testimony on behalf
- 20 of Wisconsin Energy Company, which was filed on
- 21 e-Docket on December 18th, 2014 which consisted of a
- 22 narrative exhibit, Joint Applicants' Exhibit 6.0 and

- one attachment, Joint Applicants' Exhibit 6.1?
- 2 A I did.
- 3 Q And if I were to ask you the questions that
- 4 appear in your rebuttal testimony on behalf of
- 5 Wisconsin Energy, would your answers be the same and
- 6 would they be true and correct, subject to any
- 7 revisions or corrections you made in your surrebuttal
- 8 testimony?
- 9 A Yes, they would.
- 10 Q And I'm turning to your supplemental
- 11 rebuttal testimony, which was filed on e-Docket
- January 22nd, 2015. Did you prepare or have prepared
- 13 under your direct supervision or control that
- 14 supplemental rebuttal testimony on behalf of
- 15 Wisconsin Energy consisting of a narrative exhibit,
- Joint Applicants' Exhibit 12.0 public and
- 17 confidential versions?
- 18 A I did.
- 19 Q And if I were to ask you the questions that
- 20 appeared in your supplemental rebuttal testimony on
- 21 behalf of Wisconsin Energy, would your answers today
- 22 be the same and would they be true and correct

- 1 subject to any revisions or corrections you made in
- 2 your supplemental reply testimony?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q And turning to your supplemental reply
- 5 testimony submitted on e-Docket January 29th, 2015,
- 6 did you prepare or have prepared under your direct
- 7 supervision or control supplemental reply testimony
- 8 on behalf of Wisconsin Energy Company consisting of a
- 9 narrative exhibit, Joint Applicants' Exhibit 14.0,
- 10 public and confidential versions and one attachment,
- 11 Joint Applicants' Exhibit 14.1?
- 12 A Yes, I did.
- 13 Q And if I were to ask you the questions that
- 14 appear in your supplemental reply testimony on behalf
- of Wisconsin Energy, would your answers today be the
- same and will they be true and correct subject to any
- 17 revisions or corrections you made in your surrebuttal
- 18 testimony?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q And, finally, turning to your surrebuttal
- 21 testimony, which was submitted on e-Docket on
- February 5th, 2015, did you prepare or have prepared

- 1 under your direct supervision or control surrebuttal
- 2 testimony on behalf of Wisconsin Energy consisting of
- 3 a narrative -- Joint Applicants' Exhibit 15.0 and one
- 4 attachment, Joint Applicants' Exhibit 15.1 revised --
- 5 the revised version being submitted on e-Docket
- 6 February 13th of 2015?
- 7 A Yes, I did.
- 8 Q And if I were to ask you the questions that
- 9 appear in your surrebuttal testimony on behalf of
- 10 Wisconsin Energy, would your answers today be the
- same and would they be true and correct?
- 12 A Yes, they would.
- Q And do you have any changes or corrections
- 14 to any of those documents we just listed?
- 15 A No, I do not.
- 16 Q And do you have any other changes or
- 17 corrections to any of your testimony?
- 18 A No, I do not.
- 19 MR. EIDUKAS: Your Honor, I move the admission
- 20 of the following items into evidence subject to
- 21 cross-examination: Joint Applicants' Exhibits 1.0,
- 22 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3; Joint Applicant's Exhibits 6.0 and

- 6.1; Joint Applicants' Exhibit 12.0, public and
- 2 confidential versions; Joint Applicants' Exhibit
- 3 14.0, public and confidential versions; Joint
- 4 Applicants' Exhibit 14.1 and Joint Applicants'
- 5 Exhibits 15.0 and 15.1 revised.
- 6 JUDGE DOLAN: Any objections?
- 7 (No response.)
- 8 JUDGE DOLAN: Hearing none, those exhibits will
- 9 be admitted into the record.
- 10 (Whereupon, JA Exhibits 1.0,
- 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3, 6.0, 6.1, 12.0,
- 12 public and confidential versions;
- 13 Exhibit 14.0, public and confidential
- versions; Exhibit 14.1 and Exhibits
- 15.0 and 15.1 revised were
- admitted into evidence.)
- 17 MR. EIDUKAS: Mr. Leverett is tendered for
- 18 cross-examination.
- 19 JUDGE DOLAN: Okay. Miss. Hicks?

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- 1 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 2 BY
- 3 MS. HICKS:
- 4 Q Good morning, Mr. Leverett.
- 5 A Good morning.
- 6 Q My name is Christie Hicks and I represent
- 7 the Citizens Utility Board.
- 8 As a preliminary matter, is it correct
- 9 that the QUIP merger parent entity will be referred
- 10 to as WEC, W-E-C, Energy Group?
- 11 A Yes. It's WEC Energy Group.
- 12 Q Okay. If the merger is approved, what
- 13 percentage of WEC Energy Group's revenue is projected
- to come from Illinois-based companies?
- 15 A I can't say to revenue, but I believe in
- 16 terms of net income earnings, probably around
- 17 15 percent I would say. We could certainly get you a
- 18 more precise number.
- 19 Q That would great. Thank you.
- 20 If the merger is approved, do you
- 21 know, again a ballpark, of what percentage of WEC
- 22 Energy Group's assets would be Illinois-based?

- 1 A I think in terms of rate base, it would be
- 2 a similar percentage, so probably around 15 percent;
- 3 but, again, we'd be happy to get you a more precise
- 4 number.
- 5 Q All right. Thank you.
- 6 Now, are you familiar with the Peoples
- 7 Gas Light and Coke Company's obligations regarding
- 8 AMRP with respect to the Commission's final order in
- 9 ICC Docket 12-0511 and 12-0512 consolidated?
- 10 A Could you tell me what those dockets were,
- 11 what -- the matter of those dockets.
- 12 Q Sure. That was the final order in the
- North Shore/Peoples Gas 2012 rate cases.
- 14 A I haven't reviewed those rate case orders
- 15 in detail.
- 16 Q So you're not familiar with the Peoples Gas
- 17 Light and Coke Company's existing obligations
- 18 regarding AMRP?
- 19 A No, I didn't say that. I said I hadn't
- 20 reviewed those rate case orders in detail.
- 21 Q Okay. Are you familiar with the Commission
- 22 ordered obligations from those rate orders with

- 1 respect to AMRP?
- 2 A I don't have detailed information on those
- 3 obligations.
- 4 Q Okay. If I could have you turn to your
- 5 Exhibit 15.1 revised and if I could direct you to
- 6 Commitment No. 9 on Page 2.
- 7 A In the revised version?
- 8 O In the revised version.
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q Are you aware that Peoples Gas Light and
- 11 Coke Company is already required to do most, if not
- 12 all, of the things listed within that commitment
- pursuant to the 2012 Commission order?
- 14 A No.
- 15 Q You're not aware of that?
- 16 A No, I haven't reviewed that order in
- 17 detail.
- 18 Q Okay. So are you aware that Peoples Gas
- 19 Light and Coke Company is required to meet the
- 20 obligations listed in Commitment 10 pursuant to that
- 21 rate order?
- 22 A I don't know.

- 1 Q Okay. And if I could direct you back to
- 2 Commitment 9 for just one moment. Is it correct that
- 3 this commitment applies only to the final and not the
- 4 Interim Report?
- 5 A It says with respect to each recommendation
- 6 contained in the final report of the investigation of
- 7 Peoples Gas' AMRP. So, yes, my reading of this would
- 8 be that it would apply to the final report from the
- 9 Commission's consultant.
- 10 Q And it does not apply to the Interim
- 11 Report?
- 12 A It applies to the final report.
- 13 Q Do you know whether it applies to the
- 14 Interim Report?
- 15 A I only know that this applies to the final
- 16 report.
- 17 MS. HICKS: All right. And then I have what
- 18 I've marked as CUB Cross Exhibit 1.
- 19 (Whereupon, CUB Cross
- 20 Exhibit No. 1 was
- 21 marked for identification.)
- 22 BY MS. HICKS:

- 1 Q Mr. Leverett, do you recognize the document
- 2 I've just handed you?
- 3 A Yes. I believe it's one of the data
- 4 requests that I was responsible for. I mean, you can
- 5 verify that, but I believe that's right.
- 6 Q All right. So the information in this
- 7 response is true and correct to the best of your
- 8 knowledge?
- 9 A It is.
- 10 MS. HICKS: That's all the questions that I
- 11 had.
- 12 I'd like to move for the admission of
- 13 CUB Cross Exhibit 1 at this time.
- 14 JUDGE DOLAN: Any objections?
- MR. EIDUKAS: No objections.
- 16 JUDGE DOLAN: CUB Cross Exhibit 1 will be
- 17 admitted into the record.
- 18 (Whereupon, CUB Cross
- 19 Exhibit No. 1 was
- 20 admitted into evidence.)
- 21 MS. HICKS: Thank you.
- MR. REDDICK: May I, your Honor?

- JUDGE DOLAN: Proceed. I'm sorry.
- 2 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 3 BY
- 4 MR. REDDICK:
- 5 Q Good morning, Mr. Leverett. My name is
- 6 Conrad Reddick. I represent the City of Chicago.
- 7 I'd like to spend a little time with you to
- 8 understand the commitment that I think you discussed
- 9 in your rebuttal testimony in the comprehensive list
- in Joint Applicants' Exhibit 15.1, it's Commitment
- 11 No. 9.
- You're familiar with that one?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 O The beginning portion of that describes the
- 15 source of certain recommendations and if I'm correct,
- 16 you're referring to what's been called Liberty
- 17 Report?
- 18 A In this case it will be the final Liberty
- 19 report.
- 20 O Yes.
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 Q And with respect to the recommendations in

- 1 that report, the first thing that happens, as I
- 2 understand it, is that Peoples Gas will make a
- 3 determination whether a recommendation is accepted or
- 4 modified, basically they determine how they're going
- 5 to react to each recommendation?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q And how long do you think that process
- 8 would take?
- 9 A I don't know.
- 10 Q Who would make that determination? Is this
- 11 a WEC decision at your level or is this an operating
- 12 company decision?
- 13 MR. EIDUKAS: I'll just object to the extent
- 14 the question calls for a legal conclusion or
- 15 speculation.
- 16 MR. REDDICK: The question was practical, not
- 17 legal.
- 18 JUDGE DOLAN: I'll overrule.
- 19 If you can answer.
- 20 THE WITNESS: My expectation is the senior
- 21 management, Peoples Gas, would have the primary
- 22 responsibility for determining this; but I would also

- 1 expect if there were, you know, a significant
- 2 question, they would at least get input from the
- 3 holding company.
- 4 BY MR. REDDICK:
- 5 Q I believe Mr. Giesler is the AMRP project
- 6 manager for Peoples or for Integrys; am I correct?
- 7 A I'm not sure.
- 8 Q Do you have any idea who can answer this
- 9 question?
- 10 A I'm sorry, which question?
- 11 Q How long it would take to make an
- 12 assessment of the recommendations?
- 13 A I don't.
- 14 O So we have no indication in the record how
- 15 long it would take?
- 16 A I'm not aware of any.
- 17 Q Okay. And the next step as -- let me
- 18 backup. Was this commitment developed by you or by
- 19 the operating people at Peoples Gas?
- 20 A This commitment was developed between the
- Joint Applicants. So specifically, you know, my
- 22 company, Integrys, with input from the Peoples Gas

- 1 management.
- Q Who took the lead on this?
- 3 A Well, I'm responsible for this exhibit, so
- 4 I have the lead.
- 5 Q There's a second part of this commitment
- 6 that deals with the possibility of a disagreement
- 7 between the Commission Staff and Peoples Gas.
- 8 Do you see that portion?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q As a practical matter, how did you expect
- 11 that that will work? Will it be a written submission
- 12 to the Staff or approval of your position or is it
- 13 discussions with Staff? How do you see that working?
- 14 A Well, I mean, my view would be that before
- 15 you would get to a point of any written submissions,
- 16 the staff at Peoples Gas would try to work things out
- 17 with the Commission Staff before the need for any
- 18 written submissions, but I'm just speculating. If
- 19 they couldn't work that out in conversations, I would
- 20 suppose there would be some written submissions, but
- 21 I would expect them to try to avoid that to try to
- 22 work it out.

- 1 Q Was this question discussed among the Joint
- 2 Applicants when you were putting this together or is
- 3 this just your opinion?
- 4 A It's my opinion as far as procedure of how
- 5 you would address something like this. This is --
- 6 yeah, what I just gave you is my opinion on how you
- 7 would address that procedurally.
- 8 Q And did you discuss that particular
- 9 approach with the management at Integrys or Peoples
- 10 Gas?
- 11 A Yes, I believe we did.
- 12 Q There is another process in the event that
- 13 those discussions do not prove fruitful and it
- 14 requires a petition to obtain a Commission
- 15 determination.
- 16 At what point do you think that
- 17 Peoples Gas or Integrys or WEC would resort to it a
- 18 petition to the Commission?
- 19 A Well, I suppose if the Company couldn't
- 20 reach agreement with the Staff, they would have to
- 21 make this petition.
- 22 Q And how long would you give it before you

- 1 resort to a petition?
- 2 A I really can't answer that. I don't know
- 3 what the specific issue is that's being addressed.
- 4 Q And how long do you think it would take to
- 5 resolve the question once a petition is submitted?
- 6 MR. EIDUKAS: Objection. Calls for
- 7 speculation.
- 8 JUDGE DOLAN: Sustained.
- 9 BY MR. REDDICK:
- 11 time period that could be consumed by this process?
- 12 A I don't know what the time period would be
- for the process that you're describing at the end for
- 14 a petition process. I don't know what the time
- 15 period would be.
- 16 Q And to the best of your knowledge, has any
- 17 Joint Applicants' witness provided any kind of a time
- 18 line for this process?
- 19 A I'm not aware of any.
- 20 Q Commitments 10 and 11 provide additional
- 21 detail for the commitment respecting recommendations
- 22 in 9; and with respect to Commitment 11, could you

- 1 tell me when the first report to the Commission
- 2 regarding AMRP will be made by WEC in the event that
- 3 reorganization is approved?
- 4 A Well, I believe, if you -- if I may, if you
- 5 look at Condition 26, our chief executive officer
- 6 would have to give a report on an annual basis about
- 7 the status of our compliance with all of these. So I
- 8 think if you're asking me when would be the first
- 9 time someone from WEC Energy Group would have to give
- 10 a report, I believe, sir, it would be -- the first
- 11 time that the report that's described in 26 is given.
- 12 Q If I read Commitment 26 correctly, it has
- 13 to do with compliance with the order in this docket.
- 14 My question was specifically the first report
- 15 regarding AMRP.
- 16 A From whom? From Peoples or from WEC
- 17 Energy?
- 18 Q Well, let's take them one at a time. From
- 19 WEC.
- 20 A Well, I believe the first report from
- 21 WEC Energy Group would be in connection with
- 22 Condition 26. I don't know when the first report

- 1 would be from Peoples.
- 2 Q Are you aware of any commitment to report
- 3 to the Commission before that regarding AMRP?
- 4 A Well, I believe that Peoples has an ongoing
- 5 obligation to provide information to the Commission
- 6 about AMRP. I'm not aware of specific dates at which
- 7 they're supposed to report.
- 8 Q If the reorganization is approved, do you
- 9 agree that there would be no change in the obligation
- of Peoples Gas regarding reports on AMRP to the
- 11 Commission?
- MR. EIDUKAS: I'll object to the extent the
- 13 question calls for a legal conclusion but...
- 14 MR. REDDICK: Again, the question is practical
- 15 as the new owners.
- 16 JUDGE DOLAN: I'll overrule it. He can answer.
- 17 THE WITNESS: I'm not aware of any changes in
- 18 Peoples Gas' obligations to make -- you know, to get
- 19 information about AMRP. I'm not aware of any changes
- 20 in their obligations as a result of these
- 21 reorganization -- or this proposed reorganization.

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1
     BY MR. REDDICK:
2
               Does WEC have any intention to make a
           Q
3
     change?
4
           Α
               No.
           MR. REDDICK: Thank you.
5
           JUDGE DOLAN: Miss Lusson indicated that she
6
7
     has about an hour and a half, so I think this will be
     a good time to take a break for lunch and then how
8
9
     about quarter to 1:00, how about 12:45? We'll come
10
     back at 12:45. Thank you.
11
                     (Whereupon, a luncheon
12
                    recess was taken to resume
13
                    at 12:45 p.m.)
14
                    (Change of reporter.)
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- 1 AFTERNOON SESSION
- JUDGE DOLAN: Mr. Leverett, just to remind, you
- 3 you're still under oath.
- 4 CROSS EXAMINATION
- 5 BY
- 6 MS. LUSSON:
- 7 Q Good afternoon, Mr. Leverett.
- 8 A Good afternoon.
- 9 Q My name is Karen Lusson from the Attorney
- 10 General's office, and I'm here on behalf of the
- 11 People of the State of Illinois.
- 12 A Okay.
- 13 Q I would first like to go through your
- 14 description of the merger itself in your direct
- 15 testimony.
- Now, Mr. Schott gave a quick summation
- of what's going to happen with Integrys, but I would
- 18 sort of like to go back to the beginning and talk
- 19 about Wisconsin Energy, your company.
- Now, as I understand your testimony,
- it's a holding company with a number of subsidiaries,
- 22 correct?

- 1 A That's correct.
- 2 O And those subsidiaries include Wisconsin
- 3 Electric Power Company or WEPCO and Wisconsin Gas; is
- 4 that correct?
- 5 A Yes, ma'am.
- 6 Q And both do business as Wisconsin Energy in
- 7 the State of Wisconsin?
- 8 A Actually, they do business as We Energies,
- 9 but We Energies are the tradename.
- 10 But you are exactly right the two
- 11 legal entities are Wisconsin Electric Power Company
- 12 and Wisconsin Gas.
- 13 Q Now, it's correct, isn't it, that neither
- 14 Wisconsin Energy or any of its gas distribution and
- 15 utility subsidiary companies compete with Integrys'
- 16 gas distribution utilities, which are Peoples Gas and
- 17 North Shore Gas; would you agree?
- 18 A They serve different service territories,
- 19 so they don't compete by that measure certainly given
- 20 that they serve different service territories.
- 21 Q In fact, Peoples Gas and North Shore are
- 22 monopoly utilities, right?

- 1 MR. EIDUKAS: Object to the extent that calls
- 2 for a legal conclusion.
- 3 MS. LUSSON: I'm asking whether a competition
- 4 exists, so I'm just clarifying that.
- 5 JUDGE DOLAN: Overruled.
- 6 THE WITNESS: So, yes, I guess, as a layperson,
- 7 I would say the utilities that you just mentioned are
- 8 regulated public utilities.
- 9 BY MS. LUSSON:
- 10 Q And Wisconsin Gas, which I think you just
- indicated does business as We Energy is a regulated
- 12 utility in the State of Wisconsin?
- 13 A It is.
- 14 O And in that regard does not compete with
- Peoples Gas or North Shore; would you agree?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q Now, again, as I understand your testimony,
- 18 the proposed merger would create WEC Energy Group, a
- 19 gas and electric utility serving the Midwest with
- 20 Integrys becoming a subsidiary of WEC Energy Group,
- 21 similar to Wisconsin Electric and Wisconsin Gas being
- 22 subsidiaries to Wisconsin Energy today; is that

- 1 correct?
- 2 A Yes. Integrys Energy Group will be a
- 3 first-tier subsidiary of WEC Energy Group, yes.
- 4 Q Then referencing Page 12 of your
- 5 Exhibit 1.0, Lines 249 to 255.
- 6 So I would like to go over what
- 7 companies remain after the proposed transaction is
- 8 closed.
- 9 First, it's correct that as the
- 10 proposed merger's closing, the existing Integrys
- 11 holding company merges with a new subsidiary
- 12 Wisconsin Energy will create and Integrys will be the
- 13 surviving in that merger; is that right?
- 14 A Yes.
- Q And Integrys would then merge into a second
- 16 Wisconsin Energy corporation subsidiary with that
- 17 unnamed second merger subsidiary surviving that
- 18 merger; is that right?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q And is there any change on that in terms of
- 21 the name of that second merger subsidiary? Has there
- 22 been a name selected or is it still an unnamed second

- 1 merger subsidiary?
- 2 A So I think just to refer directly to the
- 3 testimony. So at Lines 253 and 254, so the entity
- 4 that's called "subsequent merger subsidiary" and will
- 5 stand in the shoes of Integrys, as I described in
- 6 Line 254, my expectation is that that would be called
- 7 Integrys Energy Group. That subsequent merger
- 8 subsidiary.
- 9 Q And I think you just indicated that that
- 10 second subsequent merger subsidiary will stand in the
- 11 shoes of Integrys and will have Peoples Gas and North
- 12 Shore Gas, along with other existing Integrys
- 13 subsidiaries under it; is that right?
- 14 A Yes, that's what I outline in Line 255,
- 15 yes. Exactly right.
- Q So will it be the WEC, that is Wisconsin
- 17 Energy Corporation board of directors that approves
- 18 Peoples Gas and North Shore capital expenditure
- 19 budgets for the second WEC subsidiary that we have
- 20 just been talking about?
- 21 A Well, I would expect that the board of
- 22 Peoples would directly approve the capital budgets of

- 1 Peoples.
- 2 Q And would the board of the second
- 3 merger -- subsequent merger subsidiary have any say
- 4 in the capital expenditures of Peoples Gas
- 5 construction dollars?
- 6 A I don't know.
- 7 Q In terms of the negotiations that occurred
- 8 between Integrys and WEC -- when I say "WEC" if
- 9 that's an agreeable term for you, Wisconsin Energy
- 10 Corporation and WEC?
- 11 A You can use those interchangeably, that's
- 12 fine.
- 13 Q Okay. In terms of the negotiations that
- 14 occurred between Integrys and WEC prior to last
- 15 summers's announced plan acquisition, did either
- 16 Mr. Schott or Mr. Giesler participate in those
- 17 negotiations on behalf of Integrys?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q And if you can recall, when did those
- 20 negotiations begin?
- 21 A I don't recall, but I guess it would be
- 22 laid out in a proxy statement that we filed with the

- 1 SCC.
- Q Which was in what month and year, if you
- 3 recall?
- 4 A Well, the merger -- the transaction, the
- 5 proposed transaction was announced in June. I
- 6 imagine the proxy would have been filed in November
- 7 -- or no. I'm sorry. It would have been filed in
- 8 August. And then the shareholders meetings were in
- 9 November.
- 10 Q So in June of 2014, the proposed
- 11 acquisition was announced?
- 12 A Auh-huh.
- 13 Q You're saying in August of 2014, the proxy
- 14 statement was filed. My question is:
- Do you know when those negotiations
- 16 between Integrys and WEC began prior to the
- 17 announcement in June? Was it 6 months? A year?
- 18 A I don't know the precise date.
- 19 Again, that would have been laid out
- 20 in the proxy, but I would imagine that the
- 21 discussions started in December.
- 22 Q Of 2013?

- 1 A Yes.
- 2 Q Turning to your testimony at Lines 15, you
- 3 describe your duties as president of Wisconsin
- 4 Energy.
- 5 A I'm sorry. Which lines again? 9?
- 6 Q 9 through 15.
- 7 A I'm there. Go ahead.
- 8 Q Okay. Now, is it correct that you do not
- 9 have direct oversight over the day-to-day operations
- 10 of Wisconsin Gas?
- 11 A Yes, that's correct.
- 12 Q Now, you indicate your educational
- 13 background is in Electrical Engineering; is that
- 14 correct?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q And do you personally have any experience
- 17 overseeing gas utility infrastructure investment
- 18 programs?
- 19 A I do not have any personal experience.
- 20 Q Does the individual who oversees the gas
- 21 infrastructure program in the City of Milwaukee for
- 22 Wisconsin Energy report to you?

- 1 A No.
- 2 Q And what, if you know, are your employment
- 3 plans after all of the merger transactions that you
- 4 described in your direct testimony close?
- 5 Do you have the expectation of
- 6 continuing in your current role as president of
- 7 Wisconsin Energy?
- 8 A No one has made any commitments to me, so I
- 9 guess we'll see what happens.
- 10 Q Is there any uncertainty associated with
- 11 your position as of today?
- 12 A I'm not aware of any, but the board hasn't
- 13 decided.
- 14 O Have you been told that there is a
- 15 possibility that the board may decide that your
- 16 employment will change post-merger transaction?
- 17 A It's up to the board. I can't say.
- 18 Q Okay. And will you have any direct control
- over the operations of the second merger subsidiary;
- i.e., sort of the new, I guess, holding company of
- 21 Peoples Gas and North Shore?
- 22 A Can you explain what you mean by

- 1 "operations of a holding company."
- 2 Q Well, my question is:
- Were the people running Peoples Gas
- 4 and North Shore gas report to you as Wisconsin Energy
- 5 president, assuming you continue in that position?
- 6 A Oh, I don't know. I mean, it will up to
- 7 the board to set up the management structure that
- 8 they want to set up.
- 9 Q Okay. So sitting here today, you don't
- 10 know whether you will have direct oversight over what
- 11 happens in the operations of Peoples Gas and North
- 12 Shore Gas?
- 13 A I don't know if I'll personally have that
- 14 responsibility.
- 15 Q I want to go over, if we could, your
- 16 commitment that you described to a two-year rate
- 17 freeze. I believe that's mentioned at Page 21 of
- 18 your direct testimony.
- 19 Now, as I understand it, your
- 20 commitment is that any rate increase request would
- 21 not become effective any earlier than two years after
- the transaction closes. Is that a fair restatement

- 1 of your position?
- 2 A Yeah, and if I could please just to refer
- 3 to my exhibit, I think it's 15.1 in the surrebuttal
- 4 testimony.
- 5 So this would be Commitment 1.
- 6 Q Okay.
- 7 A So it says the gas companies will not seek
- 8 increases of their base rates set in Docket Numbers,
- 9 and it gives the Docket Numbers, so I assume those
- 10 would be the what we're calling the 2015 rate case,
- 11 that will become effective earlier than two years
- 12 after the reorganization closes.
- 13 Q Okay. So I think that's -- so the
- 14 beginning timeline is the close of the transaction?
- A Auh-huh.
- 16 Q Then new rates could possibly take effect
- 17 two years after that close of the transaction; is
- 18 that correct?
- 19 A That's my reading of this commitment, yes,
- 20 ma'am.
- 21 Q And could you clarify exactly what you
- 22 consider to be the closing of the transaction, for

- 1 example.
- 2 So if the Commission enters an order
- 3 on July 6th approving the merger, does the
- 4 transaction close that day? Does it take several
- 5 weeks? A couple months? How long does it take?
- 6 A Well, my interpretation of this commitment
- 7 is that when you talk about the reorganization
- 8 closing, reorganization closing is the same as the
- 9 financial closing of the merger that you and I have
- 10 been talking about.
- So, for example, if the company met
- 12 all of the conditions present at the closing, the
- 13 merger, then -- and then closed the merger on -- I
- 14 will make up a date -- September 30th of this year,
- it would be two years from that date.
- 16 Q Okay. So it sounds to me as though you're
- 17 saying, and correct me if I'm wrong, so once you get
- 18 approval from the Commission -- first let me preface
- 19 that.
- 20 Is it correct that the Illinois
- 21 Commission is the last Commission to weigh in on all
- of the necessary approvals that Wisconsin Energy

- 1 needs in terms of the schedules that you are aware of
- 2 in terms of getting approval for the merger?
- 3 A They may be. I'm not sure.
- 4 Q You're not sure. Okay.
- 5 So after an order is issued in
- 6 Illinois -- let's assume for purposes of my question
- 7 that Illinois is the last.
- 8 So do you have an understanding or can
- 9 you give us an idea of how long it takes once the
- 10 merger is approved by the Illinois Commission to
- 11 close the transaction, so to speak, given that that
- is the starting point for that two-year commitment?
- 13 A I can't really say because I don't know
- 14 what the other conditions president to closing would
- 15 still be outstanding at the time that the Illinois
- 16 Commission gave approval for the reorganization, so I
- 17 can't really say.
- 18 Q When you reference "conditions," are you
- 19 talking about any conditions approved in this merger
- 20 or any other conditions?
- 21 A Well, when I talk about conditions,
- 22 president to closing the merger, I mean the

- 1 conditions president that were laid out in the merger
- 2 itself.
- 3 Q Okay. And so if you have any expectation
- 4 as the president of Wisconsin Energy, do you expect
- 5 that to be completed by the end of the summer? Early
- 6 fall? Do you have any idea, sitting here today?
- 7 A Well, what we said publicly is that we
- 8 would expect the merger to close in the second half
- 9 of 2015, so that's as precise as we've been.
- 10 Q Okay. So would you agree then that given
- 11 that merger commitment that the company would be able
- 12 to file for a rate case 11 months prior to that
- two-year anniversary of the closing of the
- 14 transaction, assuming that it takes 11 months to
- 15 complete a rate case?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q And would you accept, subject to check,
- 18 that Peoples Gas and North Shore have filed rate
- 19 cases in 2007, 2009, 2011, 2012 and 2014?
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q In your view, does your two-year rate
- 22 commitment constitute anything more than business as

- 1 usual given that rate case filing history of
- 2 essentially every two years?
- 3 A Could you repeat the question.
- 4 Q Given that rate case filing history, would
- 5 you agree that your rate freeze commitment amounts
- 6 to, essentially, business as usual in terms of the
- 7 frequency of filing rate cases?
- 8 A No.
- 9 Q So is it your testimony then that you're
- 10 likely to wait longer than 11 months prior to the
- 11 two-year anniversary of the closing of the
- 12 transaction to file a rate case?
- 13 A No.
- 14 O Why is it that you believe that it's
- 15 not -- that it's better than -- it's not business as
- 16 usual?
- 17 A Well, I don't believe during all of the
- 18 periods that you were mentioning going back to '07, I
- 19 don't believe that Rider QIP, the AMRP program and
- the associated recovery with QIP, I don't believe
- 21 those were in place during those time periods.
- So in this time period, they will be.

- 1 Q Is it your understanding that there was no
- 2 infrastructure rider in place at all between 2007 and
- 3 2015?
- 4 A Repeat the question.
- 5 Q Is it your understanding that there was no
- 6 infrastructure rider in place between 2007 and 2015?
- 7 A I think in some years there were riders and
- 8 other years there were not.
- 9 Q So are you saying that the existence of
- 10 Rider QIP is likely to extend the time between the
- 11 filing of rate cases?
- 12 A No.
- 13 Q If you could, please, turn to your
- 14 Exhibit 15.0.
- 15 A Okay. That's my surrebuttal testimony,
- 16 just to be clear?
- 17 Q Yes. Lines 147 through 149. There you
- 18 discuss your disagreement with Mr. Lounsberry and
- 19 Mr. Coppola about the level of due diligence
- 20 performed by Wisconsin Energy as to the AMRP.
- Do you see that there?
- 22 A Yes.

- 1 Q Now, and you state that you believe that
- 2 Mr. Coppola and Mr. Lounsberry have a different view
- 3 than yourself on the type of due diligence that
- 4 should have been done related to the AMRP?
- 5 A Yes, I state it's evident that they have a
- 6 different view of what type of due diligence should
- 7 be performed.
- 8 Q Do you recall reading Mr. Lounsberry's
- 9 direct testimony in this case?
- 10 A No.
- 11 Q Do you recall him quoting an AG data
- 12 request regarding -- that inquired about a level of
- due diligence review related to the AMRP?
- 14 A No.
- 15 Q AG Cross-Exhibit 3 is the Joint Applicants'
- 16 response to Illinois Attorney General set of data
- 17 requests numbered 4.01.
- 18 Are you familiar with this response?
- 19 A I have read it as you gave it to me.
- 20 Q Okay. Now, this response or this request
- 21 asked for the Company to state whether or not in its
- due diligence review or other discussions and

- 1 analysis of Peoples Gas and Coke Company Wisconsin
- 2 Energy or the Joint Applicants have requested Peoples
- 3 Gas to provide a detailed work plan of the
- 4 Accelerated Main Replacement Program. And if you ask
- 5 to provide a copy. And this response indicated that
- 6 either WEC or Peoples Gas nor any -- I'm sorry --
- 7 neither WEC or any Joint Applicant requested Peoples
- 8 to provide a detailed work plan of the AMRP as part
- 9 of its due diligence review.
- 10 Is that your understanding that that
- 11 statement is correct?
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q And was this response prepared by you or
- 14 under your supervision or can you substantiate that
- this is the position of Wisconsin Energy?
- 16 A This is a correct response.
- 17 Q Okay. Now, were you personally involved in
- 18 WEC's review of Peoples Gas AMRP?
- 19 A I was personally involved in the due
- 20 diligence that we did associated with the purchase of
- 21 Integrys.
- Q Okay. But my question was:

- 1 Were you involved in any examination
- of Peoples' Gas' AMRP as part of WEC's due diligence?
- 3 A We didn't do a specific examination of the
- 4 AMRP.
- 5 Q Okay. Would you agree -- first, let me ask
- 6 you: You were a participant on behalf of WEC in the
- 7 Company's most recent, I think it was dated
- 8 February 11th call for investors; is that correct?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q And in that call, do you recall the CEO of
- 11 WEC describing for investors a rolling tenure capital
- 12 budget of 6.6 billion to \$7.2 billion?
- 13 A Yes.
- Q Is it fair to say that information
- 15 regarding forecasted capital expenditure budgets are
- 16 a concern of both WEC and its investors?
- 17 A There of interest to both.
- 18 Q Would you agree that given investors'
- 19 interests in future capital investment plans of a
- 20 corporate entity that understanding the capital
- 21 expenditure commitments of a utility that you're
- 22 considering acquiring should be part of the due

- diligence requirements of the acquiring company?
- 2 A Could you repeat the question.
- 3 Q Would you agree that given investors'
- 4 interest in future capital investment plans of a
- 5 corporate entity that understanding the capital
- 6 expenditure commitments of a utility that you're
- 7 considering acquiring should be part of the due
- 8 diligence requirements of an acquiring company
- 9 considering you indicated that you agree that it is
- of interest to both WEC and investors?
- 11 A I think it's an important part of the due
- diligence process to understand what the projected
- 13 capital spending levels are at the utilities.
- 14 Q And presumably that includes the projected
- 15 capital expenditures of Peoples Gas; would you agree?
- 16 A Yes, it's one of the Utility's subsidiaries
- of Integrys.
- 18 Q And would you agree that Peoples Gas' AMRP
- 19 directly impacts the level of capital expenditures of
- 20 Peoples Gas in the coming years?
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 Q Would you agree that understanding

- 1 independently assessed problems to the extent they
- 2 exist, such as those discussed by an independent or
- 3 internal auditor of a major utility infrastructure
- 4 construction program that you're -- the company of
- 5 which you're considering acquiring, should be part of
- 6 a due diligence requirements of an acquiring company?
- 7 A It depends.
- 8 Q What does it depend on?
- 9 A On the specific circumstances.
- 10 O And would those circumstances depend
- on -- would whether or not a construction program has
- 12 been viewed as troubled by the Commission regulating
- 13 that utility that that perhaps would have suggested
- 14 examination of internal audits of that construction
- 15 program?
- 16 A If something was financially material at
- 17 the Integrys level, it should have been disclosed in
- 18 their Exchange Act filings.
- 19 Q And did Integrys disclose any information
- 20 about its AMRP or any perceived problems as judged by
- 21 the Illinois Commerce Commission or independent
- 22 auditors concluding its own internal auditors to WEC

- 1 as part of the negotiations for the acquisition?
- 2 MR. EIDUKAS: I'm just going to object to the
- 3 form of the question. It was compound. There was a
- 4 lot of items in there. I was wondering if the
- 5 question could be rephrased.
- 6 MS. LUSSON: Sure. I will have to break it up
- 7 here.
- 8 Actually, can I have the question read
- 9 back.
- 10 (Whereupon, the record was read
- 11 as requested.)
- 12 MS. LUSSON: It was quite a long sentence.
- MR. EIDUKAS: It was.
- 14 BY MS. LUSSON:
- 15 Q Did Integrys disclose to Wisconsin Energy
- 16 any information related to rulings or orders by the
- 17 Illinois Commerce Commission assessing Peoples Gas'
- 18 performance of the AMRP?
- 19 A Well, I was aware of what is referred to in
- 20 the hearing here as the 2012 rate case where the
- 21 Commission started an audit process --
- Q Auh-huh.

- 1 A -- of the AMRP program. So I was aware
- 2 that. We were aware of that.
- 3 Q Did Integrys disclose that it had hired its
- 4 own internal auditor, Pricewaterhouse Coopers to
- 5 conduct an internal audit during, I believe, 2012 and
- 6 2013?
- 7 A I don't recall.
- 8 Q Would you agree that some assessment of the
- 9 future risk of a utility incurring fines and
- 10 penalties as part of a major utility infrastructure
- 11 construction program that are ultimately charged to
- 12 shareholders should be a part of any due diligence of
- a company considering acquiring that utility?
- 14 A It depends.
- 15 Q And what does it depend on?
- 16 A The level of financial materiality.
- 17 Q And did Wisconsin Energy examine whether or
- 18 not Peoples Gas had incurred any fines and penalties
- 19 as part of its AMRP as part of its due diligence?
- 20 A No.
- 21 Q Now, I recall -- I believe it's in your
- 22 rebuttal testimony, you attached a Pricewaterhouse

- 1 Coopers audit report.
- 2 Do you recall that document as an
- 3 attachment to your rebuttal testimony or is that
- 4 Mr. Giesler?
- 5 A Right.
- 6 Q Okay. Did you or anyone at Wisconsin
- 7 Energy review any of the internal Pricewaterhouse
- 8 Coopers audit reports referenced in Mr. Lounsberry's
- 9 testimony during the Wisconsin Energy due diligence
- 10 review?
- 11 A I didn't review them.
- 12 Q Did anyone at Wisconsin Energy, to your
- 13 knowledge?
- 14 A I don't know.
- Q Would any of the other witnesses, Wisconsin
- 16 Energy witnesses appearing in this case, know the
- 17 answer to that question?
- 18 A I don't know.
- 19 Q And would Mr. Lauber be the only or I would
- 20 also include Mr. Hesselbach be witnesses to inquire
- 21 about due diligence or would it just be you?
- 22 A Well, Mr. Hesselbach wasn't involved in the

- 1 due diligence.
- 2 Q Was Mr. Lauber?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q You indicated, I believe, that you were
- 5 familiar with the 2012 order that initiated the
- 6 audit; is that correct?
- 7 A I'm familiar only that in that rate case
- 8 the Commission started an audit.
- 9 Q Okay. Have you ever reviewed that order
- 10 before?
- 11 A No.
- 12 Q Can I show you a copy of that particular
- 13 finding and ask you some questions about what you
- 14 knew. I'm handing you two documents that I will mark
- as AG Cross-Exhibits 4 and 5.
- 16 But, your Honor, they are portions of
- an order, so I'm not necessarily going to be
- introducing them as exhibits, but I will mark them.
- 19 So this is 4 and this will be 5. And
- 20 I'm including as AG Cross-Exhibit 5 a portion of
- 21 Mr. Staff Witness Buxton's testimony because it is
- 22 specifically referenced in the Commission's analysis

- 1 and conclusion language as a basis for its decision
- 2 related to the audit.
- 3 So first let me ask you: Would you
- 4 accept, subject to check, this is a correct portion
- of that Commission's 2012 order?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q Now, if you look at the fourth paragraph on
- 8 that Page 61. It says "for reasons detailed in Staff
- 9 Witness Buxton's rebuttal testimony and immediately
- 10 above, the Commission adopts Staff's proposed
- 11 two-phase investigation of the AMRP."
- 12 That, I'm assuming, is what you were
- 13 referencing when you said you were familiar with the
- 14 audit requirement that was ordered in this docket?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q So if you could turn to AG Cross-Exhibit 5
- 17 and look at pages -- the bulleted items on Pages 23
- 18 and 24. This seems to be the reference to the
- 19 rationale provided by the Commission approving the
- 20 audit.
- 21 Can you take a look at that.
- 22 MR. EIDUKAS: Your Honor, I'm going to object

- 1 to the line of questioning on AG Cross-Exhibit 5 as
- 2 being outside the scope of this proceeding and
- 3 irrelevant to this proceeding because the prior
- 4 testimony or findings with respect to the Commission
- 5 with regard to past practices occurrences with
- 6 Peoples Gas AMRP are not relevant to whether or not
- 7 approving this organization is going to have an
- 8 adverse impact going forward; and therefore, it would
- 9 be irrelevant and immaterial to this proceeding.
- 10 MS. LUSSON: Your Honor, this witness has
- 11 testified and taken issue with concerns about the due
- diligence review by the acquiring company.
- 13 And this testimony in Mr. Buxton's
- 14 excerpt and Commission order, I'm simply trying to
- lay a foundation for questions related to that due
- 16 diligence review.
- 17 Specifically, I would like to inquire
- 18 as to whether or not Mr. Leverett understood that the
- 19 Commission had made those conclusions about the state
- 20 of the AMRP as part of its due diligence review.
- 21 MR. EIDUKAS: And I'll just add to that.
- 22 And I apologize if it was in the

- 1 question and I missed it, but I also don't think I
- 2 heard the question about whether Mr. Leverett had
- 3 reviewed or seen this document before, so there also
- 4 might be a foundational issue. But if that was part
- of the question, I apologize if I missed it.
- 6 MS. LUSSON: So I'm referencing -- I'm
- 7 providing him a copy of the referenced information
- 8 that was relied upon to approve the audit.
- 9 And what I want to ask is if
- 10 Mr. Leverett was aware, as part of his due diligence
- 11 review, that the Commission had concluded that these
- 12 problems existed as outlined in Mr. Buxton's
- 13 testimony and served as a basis for the audit.
- 14 It goes to whether or not the company
- did appropriate due diligence and, in fact, is ready,
- 16 willing and able to assume the duties for the
- 17 oversight of the AMRP.
- So, basically, I'm trying to lay a
- 19 foundation to ask him certain questions as to whether
- or not he knew what was concluded by the Commission,
- 21 and then I'll move on, your Honor.
- 22 JUDGE DOLAN: Under that circumstance, I will

- 1 overrule the objection.
- Go ahead.
- 3 BY MS. LUSSON:
- 4 Q So looking at the bottom of Page 23,
- 5 Mr. Leverett, did you know, as part of your due
- 6 diligence review, that the Commission concluded when
- 7 it issued this 2012 rate order that Peoples does not
- 8 have a detailed AMRP plan?
- 9 A At what point in time are you asking that
- 10 question?
- 11 Q As part of your due diligence review prior
- 12 to making your announcement of your proposed merger?
- 13 A And then repeat the question.
- 14 O Did you have understanding, as part of your
- due diligence review, that the Commission had
- 16 concluded that Peoples does not have a detailed AMRP
- 17 plan?
- 18 A No, I did not.
- 19 Q Did you know, as part of your due diligence
- 20 review, that that Peoples Gas tested an annual AMRP
- 21 budget based on unspecified criteria and then
- designed its AMRP work for the year to consume that

- 1 budget?
- 2 MR. EIDUKAS: Well, again, I'm going to object
- 3 because in terms of the question this was testimony
- 4 that was provided back in January of 2013, and there
- 5 is no indication about the timing of where Ms. Lusson
- 6 is asking these circumstances to have existed of
- 7 Mr. Leverett.
- 8 JUDGE DOLAN: I think you have to lay a better
- 9 foundation because these are not current. I mean,
- 10 these are the findings that the Commission had at
- 11 that time, but there has been another rate case come
- 12 through, so...
- MS. LUSSON: Right. If you give me just a
- 14 little more leeway, Judge, I think I can connect the
- dots here.
- 16 JUDGE DOLAN: I will give you a little leeway.
- 17 MS. LUSSON: Thank you. I appreciate it.
- 18 BY MS. LUSSON:
- 19 Q You'd agree this order was entered in 2013,
- 20 if you would accept that, subject to check.
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 Q So at that time, would you agree that the

- 1 Commission had decided, as it states in the order,
- 2 for reasons detailed in Staff Witness Buxton's
- 3 rebuttal testimony, Pages 23 and 24, and the
- 4 information described above, that the Commission was
- 5 adopting Staff's proposed two-phase audit approach;
- 6 would you agree with that?
- 7 A I was aware that the Commission had ordered
- 8 a two-phase audit.
- 9 Q So looking at this information that served
- 10 as the basis for this Commission's decision, my
- 11 question having looked -- if you could look over
- 12 those bullet items -- did you or any of the WEC
- 13 personnel involved in the due diligence review
- 14 understand that the Commission had made these
- 15 findings that these problems existed in 2013?
- 16 A I was aware of an audit.
- 17 Q Okay. But not necessarily the specific
- 18 findings that justified -- that the Commission
- 19 believed justified the audit?
- 20 A I was aware of an audit.
- Q So is that a "yes"?
- 22 A I was aware of an audit. That's all I can

- 1 tell you.
- Q Okay. Do you agree with Staff Witnesses
- 3 Stoller's public statement in the public version of
- 4 his rebuttal testimony that quote: "At this point,
- 5 his reading of the attached Liberty Interim Audit
- 6 Report indicates that there are, in Liberty's
- 7 opinion, several problems with the way Peoples Gas
- 8 has conducted AMRP"?
- 9 A Is there a specific -- I mean, I don't have
- 10 his testimony.
- 11 MR. EIDUKAS: I would object on foundation
- 12 grounds. If there is a document, maybe she can show
- 13 the witness.
- 14 BY MS. LUSSON:
- 15 Q Let me ask you this:
- 16 Do you agree that you're the witness
- 17 that testified about Wisconsin Energy's readiness,
- 18 willingness and ability to implement Liberty audit
- 19 findings; is that right?
- 20 A Yes. I reviewed the report, the interim
- 21 report.
- 22 Q Were you aware that the cost of the

- 1 program, as part of your due diligence review, had
- 2 escalated from an original estimation of 2.2 billion
- 3 to over 4 billion?
- 4 A Integrys management discussed with us the
- 5 projected cost of the program.
- 6 Q And what, if you recall, what did they
- 7 identify the projected costs to be?
- 8 A I don't recall.
- 9 Q Did you inquire as to whether, as part of
- 10 your due diligence review, whether the program was on
- 11 schedule to be completed by 2030?
- 12 A I recall that the management told us they
- had a goal to complete it by 2030.
- 14 O And as part of your due diligence review,
- did you inquire as to what level of capital
- 16 investment would be needed for Peoples Gas over the
- 17 next 15 years post-acquisition to satisfy that 2030
- 18 AMRP goal, as you called it?
- 19 A I believe that Integrys management provided
- 20 a projection of the spending.
- 21 Q And was that a three-year projection? A
- 22 five-year? Was it multiple decades?

- 1 A I believe it was an a ten-year projection.
- 2 That's what they disclosed publicly, is my
- 3 recollection, a ten-year projection.
- 4 Q And when you say they disclosed that
- 5 publicly, in what form was it publicly disclosed?
- 6 A My recollection is they had disclosed it in
- 7 presentation dec's they had given to investors.
- 8 Q Now, at Lines 151 to 154 of your
- 9 surrebuttal testimony, I believe. Yeah,
- 10 Exhibit 15.0, you indicate that you agree with
- 11 Mr. Lounsberry's conclusion that any due diligence
- 12 concerns have been addressed by Wisconsin Energy's
- 13 review of the Liberty Interim Report produced by
- 14 Staff Witness Stoller.
- Do you see that?
- 16 A I do.
- 17 Q Is it typical for an acquiring company to
- 18 perform due diligence on a utility's major
- 19 infrastructure construction program after the
- 20 acquisition has been announced to stock holders and
- 21 investors at large?
- 22 A It would be typical to look at all the

- 1 material, the financial material items beforehand.
- 2 Q What financial recording items are you
- 3 talking about?
- 4 A Well, any items that are financially
- 5 material, as I was discussing before. Any items that
- 6 are financially material should be in the Exchange
- 7 Act filings and we would have had access to those.
- 8 Q Did you read the Liberty Interim Report in
- 9 detail?
- 10 A You have to explain what you mean by "read
- in detail"? What does that mean?
- 12 Q Did you read it cover to cover the document
- 13 that was attached to Mr. Stoller's testimony?
- 14 A I read the summary in detail. I can't say
- 15 that I memorized every single page.
- 16 Q The summary would that have been 1 through,
- 17 I believe, 5 pages?
- 18 A Can I see it please. Can you repeat the
- 19 question.
- 20 Q When you say you read the summary, would
- 21 that have been the S-1 through S-7 pages which is
- 22 then followed by the covers as it appeared in

- 1 Mr. Stoller's submission?
- 2 A I believe I'm aware of the major
- 3 conclusions of this report.
- 4 Q Did you actually read the auditor's
- 5 assessment of the problems and recommended actions in
- 6 the report?
- 7 A I'm aware of the major conclusions of the
- 8 report, so that's what I'm aware of.
- 9 Q Okay. Did you read them or did someone
- 10 else advise you about them to make you aware?
- 11 A As I stated before, I read the summary and
- 12 then I became aware or was made aware of the major
- 13 conclusions and it was reviewed with me.
- 14 Q And how did you become aware of the major
- 15 conclusions, from reading the summary or did someone
- 16 discuss it with you?
- 17 A From reading the summary.
- MS. LUSSON: At this time, your Honor, we need
- 19 to go in camera.
- 20 JUDGE DOLAN: Okay. Is there anyone that has
- 21 to leave the room?

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1	(Whereupon,	the following	in camera.
2	proceedings	were had.)	
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